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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOURCE Tung-pei Jih-pao.

NORTHEAST SETS COAL PRODUCTION GOALS,  
ADVERTISES FOR TECHNICIANS

COAL CONFERENCE MEETS -- Tung-pei Jih-pao, 22 Mar 49

The second Northeast coal conference met in Shen-yang (Mukden) from 20 February - 4 March 1949. Five principal mining districts and several smaller ones were represented, with both management and labor delegates present. The delegates numbered more than 100.

Various questions were discussed, including the following:

1. Production goal for 1949. State-owned mines were given a collective quota of 8 million tons. Individual mines were each assigned a goal. Operational improvement in the northern mines was stressed to get better efficiency and quality at lower cost. As for the southern mines, resumption of operations was stressed, with a view to an over-all target for the Northeast of 12 million tons in 1950. Transportation of coal was also emphasized with a transport goal in 1949 of 7,600,000 tons, including stocks on hand. Railways must do their part by assigning sufficient cars.
2. Improving mining methods. In the past, eagerness for output has led to irregularities, causing difficulty in maintaining tunnels and injury to miners. For safety and efficiency these short-cut practices must be corrected.
3. Eliminating hazards. Some progress has been made along this line, but not enough. Responsible safety officers should investigate all major accidents and analyze causes in the interest of prevention. Each worker in a mine should have 3 cubic feet of air per minute and care should be taken to preserve health and avoid accidents. This can be achieved by training classes, instruction pamphlets, safety equipment, and rescue squads.
4. Raising quality. On this point there is still something to be desired. Some mine executives feel that without mechanical cleaners quality cannot be improved, but workers must be taught to keep out impurities when loading in the mine, and to clean the coal again outside the pit, for the presence of rock adds greatly to transportation costs. This year in restoring the mines at Fou-hsin, Ho-kang, etc., all stones more than 10 centimeters in size must be cleaned out.

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5. Increasing efficiency. Through economy and proper use of men and materials, an effort will be made to surpass last year's output by 10 percent. The mining office of the government is making studies in order to standardize amounts of labor and equipment.

6. Accurate cost accounting. Heretofore mine operators have concentrated on fulfilling their quota with slight attention to cost. When the mines ask for supplies and money, full justification is often lacking, so the requisition degenerates into a sort of bargaining. From now on, cost must be controlled, an over-all plan and standard of costs set up, payments for construction and operation separated, and depreciation of plant properly computed. In this way an effort can be made to reduce costs and at the same time a selling price fixed to prevent loss of money.

7. Improving laborers' education and standard of living. In newly recovered mines, it is most important to develop a new attitude toward work. Unless class consciousness is quickened among the laborers, unless they recognize that they are the mine owners, there can be no stepping up of production or improvement of quality. This is the chief factor in the success or failure of production goals, so that the labor movement must be strengthened, education carried on during productive work, and welfare conditions improved.

8. Democratizing the management of production. In any kind of productive enterprise, management will succeed best through the joint efforts of a managing committee and labor delegates, relying on the active initiative of the mass of workers. Past defects of cadres in this field must be corrected. This new plan of control raises the laborers' political position in production. If this is done the fulfillment of this year's quota will be guaranteed.

TECHNICIANS WANTED -- Tung-pei Jih-pao, 26 Mar 49

The Northeast Precious Metals Control Bureau is advertising for various types of specialists: (1) mineralogists, metallurgists (nonferrous), geologists, and mechanical, electrical and civil engineers. Applicants must be graduates of Chinese or foreign universities, or technical schools, with both theoretical and practical experience; (2) surveyors (with the same educational and experience qualifications as above) able to do mine and topographical surveying; (3) mechanical draftsmen and artists with 3 years of practical experience, blueprint men with over 3 years of experience; (4) Russian, German, and English translators able to do scientific translations; and (5) experienced statisticians skilled in industrial production statistics.

Shen-yang -- The Northeast Electrical Industry Control Bureau is seeking first-class technicians in the fields of metallurgy, physics, chemistry, electrochemistry, mechanical drawing, and drafting.

The Fu-shun Hsien Rubber Factory is seeking chemists for experimentation on and production of all types of rubber goods for use in both light and heavy industry.

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